

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A guide wire clasping driven member which maintains a length of a guide wire disposed in a tissue comprising:
 - a rotatable drive shaft configured to apply a driving and rotational force to a medical device; and
 - a wire locking mechanism associated with a spacer configured to hold the guide wire a predetermined distance from the tissue as the medical device is driven distally away from the wire locking mechanism.
2. (original) The guide wire clasping driven member according to Claim 1 further comprising a cannulated outer sleeve, said rotatable drive shaft being disposed within said cannulated outer sleeve.
3. (original) The guide wire clasping driven member according to Claim 2 wherein said outer sleeve is rotatably coupled to said rotatable drive shaft.
4. (original) The guide wire clasping driven member according to Claim 2 wherein said wire locking mechanism is disposed within said cannulated sleeve.

5. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A guide wire clasping driven member according to Claim 1 which maintains a length of a guide wire disposed in a tissue comprising:

a rotatable drive shaft configured to apply a driving and rotational force to a medical device; and

a wire locking mechanism configured to hold the guide wire a predetermined distance from the tissue as the medical device is driven distally away from the wire locking mechanism, wherein said wire locking mechanism has a pair of guide wire clamping jaws.

6. (withdrawn) The guide wire clasping driven member according to Claim 1 wherein said wire locking mechanism comprises a threaded knob.

7. (original) The guide wire clasping driven member according to Claim 1 wherein the medical device is selected from a group of a fastener, a drill bit, and a cutting tool.

8. (original) The guide wire clasping driven member according to Claim 1 wherein the driven shaft is cannulated and configured to accept the guide wire.

9. (currently amended) An apparatus for driving a medical device comprising:

a guide wire clasp driven member which maintains a length of a guide wire coupled to a tissue comprising [[a]] an axially movable rotatable shaft configured to be coupled to the medical device, and [[a]] an axially stationary wire locking mechanism which retains the wire at a predetermined distance from the tissue during axial movement of the rotatable shaft; and

a driver coupled to said rotatable drive shaft.

10. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 9 wherein the guide wire clasp driven member comprises an annular outer sleeve disposed about said drive shaft.

11. (withdrawn) The apparatus according to Claim 9 wherein said wire locking mechanism is disposed within said driver.

12. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 9 wherein the wire locking mechanism is disposed within the annular outer sleeve.

13. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus ~~according to Claim 9~~
~~wherein the~~ for driving a medical device comprising:
a guide wire clasping driven member which maintains a length of a guide
wire coupled to a tissue comprising a rotatable shaft configured to be coupled to the
medical device, and a wire locking mechanism which comprises a pair of collapsible
jaws and retains the wire at a predetermined distance from the tissue; and
a driver coupled to said rotatable drive shaft.

14. (withdrawn) The apparatus according to Claim 9 wherein the driver is a
handle.

15. (original) The apparatus according to Claim 9 wherein the driver is a
drive motor selected from the group consisting of electric and pneumatic.

16. (currently amended) A method for rotating a medical device with respect to a biological tissue having a guide wire comprising:

- providing a medical device;
- providing a guide wire retaining member having a driven shaft and a wire retaining mechanism, ~~said wire retaining mechanism configured to hold the guide wire at a fixed distance from the tissue;~~
- ~~positioning the guide wire retaining member relative to the medical device;~~
- ~~retaining the~~ grasping a point on a guide wire at a fixed distance from the biological tissue with the wire retaining mechanism; and
- applying a force to the driven shaft to ~~apply forces to~~ affix the medical device with respect to the biological tissue; and
- maintaining the point on the guide wire at the fixed distance from the biological tissue while applying the force.

17. (original) The method of Claim 16 wherein providing a medical device includes providing a medical device selected from a cannulated screw, a cannulated drill bit, and a cannulated cutting tool.

18. (original) The method of Claim 16 further comprising placing the guide wire through the medical device.

19. (original) The method of Claim 16 wherein providing a guide wire retaining member includes provides a cannulated outer sleeve, said wire retaining mechanism disposed within said outer sleeve.

20. (withdrawn) The method according to Claim 16 further including providing a driver coupled to the driven shaft, and wherein providing the guide wire retaining member includes providing a wire clamp disposed within the driver.